

Participation of Foreign Equity in AI

1712. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to accept participation of foreign equity in Air India;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) whether the Minister has undertaken tours to Singapore and Malaysia in order to sort out the probabilities;

(d) if so, with what result;

(e) whether some proposals from other countries have also been received in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government has approved in principle, bringing down the equity of the Government of India in Air India to 40% through a process of disinvestment by sale of 40% of equity to a strategic partner, upto 10% to employees, and the balance by sale to financial institutions and/or on the share market. In the event of the strategic partner being a joint venture with an element of foreign holding, the arrangement should be such as would limit foreign holding in Air India to a maximum of 26% of the total equity.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. At the invitation of the Singapore Government, the Minister (Civil Aviation) undertook a study tour of Singapore to see the airport and to discuss bilateral matters.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Committee on International Passenger Terminals at Delhi and Mumbai

†1713. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in 'The Hindustan Times' dated the 17th July, 2000 under the caption

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

"AAI pulled up for mismanagement";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that a four-members committee had been constituted by Government which had conducted a study pertaining to International Passenger Terminals of Delhi and Mumbai; and

(c) if so, when the said committee had submitted its report to Government, and what were the recommendations made in the report alongwith the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri R.C. Jain was constituted by the Government to inquire into the accident that occurred at IGI Airport, New Delhi on 13th December, 1999. The Committee was also asked to make a study on the various aspects of airport functioning.

(c) The Committee has submitted its report on 14-7-2000 which is under consideration.

Strike by Ground Staff at Airports

1714. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the administrative and ground staff in airports throughout the country threatened to go on hunger strike;

(b) if so, their charter of demands; and

(c) the action taken by the management of the Airports Authority of India to deal with the burning problems of the workers to avoid such threats?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Report of High Powered Committee on Hijacking of IA Plane

1715. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the high-power official committee set up by the